

Weekly National Intelligencer.

WASHINGTON: SATURDAY, JUNE 24, 1854.

NO 971

THE WEEKLY NATIONAL INTELLIGENCER.

The subscription price of this paper for a year is **THREE DOLLARS**, payable in advance. For the long Sessions of Congress, (averaging eight months,) the price will be **TWO DOLLARS**; for the short Sessions **ONE DOLLAR** per copy. An addition of 20 per cent. (one-fifth of the full charge) will be made to any one who shall order and pay for at one time, five copies of the Weekly paper; and a like reduction of 25 per cent. (one-fourth of the full charge) to any one who will order and pay for, at one time, ten or more copies. No account being kept for this paper, it will not be forwarded to any one unless paid for in advance, nor sent any longer than the time for which it is so paid.

MONDAY, JUNE 19, 1854.

THE TARIFF.—It is currently reported, and generally believed, that the bill for the modification of the Tariff which has been prepared by the Committee of Ways and Means puts iron, sugar, cotton, woolens, wines, &c. among the articles in the twenty per cent. list. The one hundred per cent. duty on brandy is retained. Other rates are five and ten per cent. on specified articles, and a like rate on all other goods. The free list is slightly increased. No change is proposed in regard to the fishing bounty. It is not probable that the bill will receive much consideration at the present session.

"Some of our contemporaries are finding fault with the National Intelligencer for its opinions on matters connected with the foreign relations of our country and some late political movements. Now, it so happens that in several of these matters we do not agree ourselves with the National Intelligencer, and wish that it had pursued a different course; but the intelligence and honesty of its Editors were never doubted, and the paper has exhibited in itself every quality of all credit. We do not see it swimming with the current and setting its sails to catch the popular breeze. The frank and many opponents of the Intelligencer must at least acknowledge that it is worthy of their highest respect."

—*Albany Gazette.*

If we were not averse to giving trouble we would ask of our esteemed neighbor of the Alexandria Gazette what "matters connected with the foreign relations of the country" are they on which we perceive by the above paragraph of the 17th instant "he does not agree with us," and in regard to which he wishes we "had pursued a different course?" We would put this inquiry in all sincerity, for there is no journal by whose opinions we would be more ready to rectify our own than by his. We are not aware that our "foreign relations" have been such as to rouse conflicting opinions in the country since the "Fifty-four forty" controversy and the Mexican war, and upon both of these questions we had the good fortune, we believe, to have the concurrence of the Alexandria Gazette.

We observe, in the friendly article of the Gazette, a reference also to "some late political movements" on which it "does not agree with us." Presuming that this has allusion to the repeal of the Missouri Compromise, we beg to say that, in regard to our course on that question, we have hitherto seen no cause to feel either regret or doubt. On the contrary, in addition to our own clearest convictions of right, we have been cheered by the general approval of our subscribers throughout the South, of which indications reach us almost daily; while, with a single exception, the voice of disapproval has not reached us from any Southern Whig outside of Congress. We are not unaware that it has been pronounced here, in a certain conclave, by some whose right to speak for the Whig party, North or South, might well be disputed, that the Intelligencer "misrepresented the Whigs of the South;" but we might answer that, while the Intelligencer never professed to speak for the Whig party anywhere, it did not, on the repeal of the Missouri compromise, misrepresent the Whigs of the South, however many of them may have differed from it. So far from this, we firmly believe, and have many evidences to show, that a great portion if not a majority of the Whigs of the South disapproved of the agitation of the compromise question, and that very many of those who did not openly disapprove of it witnessed the repeal with indifference.

We are, nevertheless, sensible of the kind manner of the Gazette in stepping forward in our defence against the censures of the few violent presses which have thought fit to arraign the course of the National Intelligencer, although we have not ourselves thought it worth while to vindicate it against the hasty judgments of a blind sectional prejudice.

A gentleman of this city, who passed half through Virginia and back last week, informs us that he conversed with many citizens of the State on the Nebraska bill, and that almost every Whig he met with and many Democrats expressed their regret at the moving in Congress of the repeal of the Missouri compromise.

FROM THE WASHINGTON UNION OF SATURDAY.

GEN. J. A. QUITMAN.—An article appeared in our paper some days since, in which a friend of Gen. Quitman alluded to the attempt to connect him with the alleged filibustering movements against Cuba. This article has induced Gen. Quitman to send to the Hon. WILEY P. HARRIS the following despatch:

NEW ORLEANS, JUNE 14.

Tell the editor of the Union that no man is authorized to speak for me but myself. Publish this.

J. A. QUITMAN.

The article above alluded to was published in the Union of the 4th instant, under the signature of "A. G. HALEY." It asserted that Gen. Quitman would approve of the late proclamation of the President denouncing unlawful expeditions against Cuba, and denied the report that Gen. Quitman was the leader of any such expedition, or in any way implicated therein.

On his plantation, near Charleston, (S. C.) Mr. T. R. WARREN raises Cashmere goats which seem perfectly at home, and apparently like the climate. The weight of their fleeces is about equal to that of the best kind of sheep and ten times as valuable.

SANITARY.—In view of a possible visitation from cholera, the authorities of Boston are thoroughly cleansing the city and erecting a temporary hospital. It is also contemplated to establish small medical depots at the extreme ends of the city. In other places, in the interior of New York and elsewhere, similar preparatory measures are in progress. This is judicious. It is noticeable that this season cases of cholera originate where there are no peculiar exciting causes, and where no communication has been had with emigrants, or other sources from which it might have been introduced. —*Journal of Commerce.*

THE LATE RECIPROCITY TREATY.

It appears by a Telegraphic despatch from Quebec that since the arrival of Lord ELGIN at that place the provisions of the late Treaty with Great Britain have been made public. They are stated to be as follows:

Article first throws open to American citizens all the fisheries of British America, excepting the Newfoundland mouths of rivers, and the salmon, shad, and shell fisheries.

Article second gives British subjects a right to the American fisheries to the thirty-sixth parallel.

Article third provides for the free exchange of certain commodities, among which are enumerated flour and all kinds of breadstuffs; cotton, butter, cheese, tallow, lard; all kinds of coals; pitch, tar, turpentine, lumber, rice; and manufactures of tobacco.

Article fourth throws open the River St. Lawrence and the Canadian canals to American vessels, the United States Government undertaking to urge the State Governments to admit British vessels into their canals.

Article fifth provides for the ratification of the Treaty. Article sixth provides for including Newfoundland in the Treaty whenever she consents thereto.

MR. FILLMORE AT THE WEST.—On Tuesday week President FILLMORE was publicly received by the city authorities and citizens of St. Louis, who accorded to this distinguished citizen a most cordial and enthusiastic welcome. Mr. FILLMORE was on board the Rock Island excursion, and was accompanied by Hon. GEORGE BANCROFT, Judge HALL, and other distinguished gentlemen. A large military procession escorted Mr. FILLMORE into the city, and he was addressed by Mayor HOWE and Major WRIGHT. We copy the following paragraphs from the reply of Mr. FILLMORE:

"I never knew the resources of the Mississippi Valley until my visit to the South. I had often heard of its boundless prairies and its rich lands, so well and peculiarly adapted to the wants and necessities of man; and my visit at this time has peculiarly impressed upon me its great importance. Coming from St. Paul on this occasion from the far North, I view St. Louis not only as the commercial center of this valley, but the great center of this Union, the half-way house, might be termed, between the Atlantic and Pacific seaboard."

"One thing is yet wanting to complete and fill the measure of our country's glory, and without it our broad lands and great resources will be of no avail. It is that iron bands, for the purpose of commercial transit and as a conservative element, shall connect the two oceans. We must have a railway across the continent; for without this we will be and feel like the old colonies, that we are too far away from the central power. If we would preserve this Union, with all its inestimable blessings, all sections of the country must feel that they are one common brotherhood; and to do this space must, in a measure, be annihilated, and every part of the country brought in contact and fraternized with each other."

PLAN FOR A GREAT INDIAN COUNCIL.—Gov. STEVENS, of Washington Territory, has written a letter to the Secretary of the Interior, urging the importance of holding a council with the various tribes of Indians with whom treaties have not yet been concluded. He thinks that the influence of such a council would be to prevent the recurrence of hostilities between the Blackfeet, Crows, and Assiniboes; thus effecting the peace and well-being of about twenty-five thousand Indians. The Blackfeet tribe is one of the most numerous and powerful of the nations of red men in our Western country. From time immemorial they have been at war with all surrounding tribes. Now, however, the white men are encroaching upon them, their provisions, which they have hitherto derived mostly from the buffalo, are falling short, and during their conferences with a Government agent, they have evinced a desire to make peace with their enemies and to learn agriculture. The same desire was manifested at a council of their principal chiefs held by Gov. Stevens in September last, and some of the bands have shown by their actions that these are not merely hollow professions. Other bands, however, continue unusually active in their war excursions against their innumerable enemies. But they are on good terms with the whites, and Gov. Stevens urges upon Government the importance of conciliating this powerful tribe.

DECLINE IN BEEF.—The Baltimore cattle market report shows another considerable decline in the price of beef cattle. The decline was about seventy-five cents per hundred pounds on Monday last.

SABBATH RIOTS AT NEW YORK.—The Telegraphic despatches announced that the Sabbath at New York passed off quietly notwithstanding the street-preaching. The newspapers do not confirm these reports. The following is extracted from the Journal of Commerce:

STREET-PREACHING AND ROWDYISM.—These terms having for the past few months become perfectly synonymous, the duty of recording the riotous incidents of the Sabbath, day weekly devolves upon the press, and for some time to come the columns will continue to be filled with reports of rowdyism, unless some very effective check is produced to counteract the growing evil. The demonstration in the Park yesterday was of the usual stamp. Addresses of a politico-religious character were delivered by a Mrs. Bishop, the man West, and "Moses," who has rendered himself so conspicuous of late, not by his volubility of speech, but by his performance on an accordion. Another person also relieved himself of considerable language, directed throughout to inflame the passion of his audience, the Irish more especially. The gist of the addresses consisted of language denunciatory of the Roman Catholics, their priests and practices. Previous to five o'clock the number of men, women, and children arrived at the City Hall was less than usual, but about that hour five thousand had assembled. A number of Irishmen were scattered among the crowd, the majority of whom were puffed upon and directly whipped. It having been observed by Judge Beebe and the Chief of Police, and others, who were unseen by those without, that these onslaughts were made without provocation or without a word being spoken by the injured men, they were quick in arresting several of the leaders of the aggressive party. During the hour and beyond that for the distance of five hundred miles, stone-coal, iron-ore, and other valuable minerals abound in profusion. This region is watered by the Tennessee and Clinch rivers, which are navigable for steamboats during nine months of the year. In Anderson, Campbell, and Johnson, and Hawkins counties, salt, coal, and iron exist in abundance. On the south side of the Holston river discoveries are being made daily of iron, lead, silver, copper, and coal. In Polk county twelve copper mines are in operation, most of which produce ore (so says our contemporary) of a quality richer than the mines of Lake Superior. For this ore \$170 per ton is realized. The cost of transportation to New York is \$21.50. The copper business is the most profitable in that section. During the month of April four of these mines shipped six hundred tons of ore; equivalent in value to \$102,000.

THE FILIBUSTEROS AND CUBA.

An attempt to obtain forcible possession of Cuba would involve a war with Spain, giving rise to another and a most formidable objection to the measure in the form of the enormous injury such an event would inflict upon our commerce, the value of our tonnage, the decline in the value of our stocks, and the general depreciation in real estate, particularly in our seaports.

That in the course of six or eight months we should possess a naval superiority over Spain upon the ocean there can be but little doubt, whatever might be the fact in that respect at the commencement of hostilities under the present reduced and inefficient state of our national marine; but this superiority, admitting it to be as great as the most sanguine might anticipate, would not prevent Spanish privateers from swarming in every sea that is frequented by our merchantmen, and committing the most fearful ravages upon them. Our superiority over Spain under any circumstances could not begin to compare with the naval superiority of Great Britain over us in the last war, when the latter had one thousand ships and one hundred and fifty thousand seamen in full activity, and we never had ten national ships of all classes at one time on the ocean, and every port in the Union blockaded; yet, notwithstanding this, our privateers committed the most extensive havoc on British commerce, and that too when, during the last year of the war, (1814,) Great Britain was relieved from her European enemies, and was able to direct so large a portion of her attention to us.

Spain has forty thousand seamen, which are now employed in her national or commercial marine. In a war with us, as a matter of course, her commerce would be annihilated, and the only resource for her forty thousand seamen would be on board of privateers to prey upon our flag. The chances of gain would be so great that they would all eagerly enter into the employment, to say nothing of all the other privateersmen of Europe who would flock to the Spanish flag in order to obtain a portion of the rich harvest of plunder which our thousands of merchant ships and their valuable cargoes would afford. We see it asserted that we could capture or drive from the ocean these fleets of private armed ships. That we could and would capture many of them there is no doubt, but it would be something like cutting off the heads of the hydra; for each one we cut off two would appear in its place, and as we exchanged our prisoners they would at once re-embark in another ocean foray upon us. What, for instance, could we do for the protection of our commerce on the Mediterranean, or in entering or leaving that sea, with the numerous Spanish Mediterranean ports, from all which privateers would issue in any required number, and with Algiers as a sanctuary at the Straits of Gibraltar, under the formidable batteries of which place steam or sailing ships of war can so securely anchor, and dash out upon every one of our merchant vessels which might attempt to enter or leave the Straits? Our East India and Pacific commerce would be also cut up by the increased number of Spanish ports of the Philippines, and the ports of Cuba and Porto Rico (at any rate, until we could capture those islands) would send forth a full quota of armed cruisers to act their part in the drama of destruction.

The amount of property, including the value of the vessels, that passes Cape Florida to and from the American ports on the Gulf of Mexico, is from \$250,000,000 to \$300,000,000 per annum. Does any one of those rash and thoughtless persons who are so anxious for a war with Spain believe that we are prepared, or can be prepared, to protect this vast commerce effectively over the whole surface of the Gulf in going in and coming out from that inland sea, and after it gets out upon the waters of the Atlantic? Can we at the same time furnish the necessary naval force for offensive operations against Cuba, dispatch squadrons for the protection of our trade over the whole surface of the Atlantic, in the Mediterranean, in the East Indies, on the coast of Brazil, in the Pacific, at the Sandwich Islands and Australia, at Java and Sumatra, in the China seas, on the eastern coast of China, in the Bay of Bengal, and on all the coasts of British India? Does any one suppose we could capture or drive into port every Spanish vessel that would immediately after a declaration of war be found in all the above quarters of the world?

But even the presence on the ocean of Spanish privateers would not be necessary to drive our merchant flag from the ocean; for our own underwriters could do it pretty effectually by the increased insurance they would demand in the shape of war premiums on both our vessels and cargoes. At the present moment our ship-owners have a fierce competition not only for the foreign-carrying trade, but also even for the trade of the United States with European ship-owners; and an increase of only one per cent. in the rate of insurance on vessels and cargoes under the American flag would go far towards deciding the struggle in favor of the foreign trader. But, instead of one per cent., a war with Spain would increase the rates of insurance, according to the views of the whole surface of the Atlantic, in the Mediterranean, in the East Indies, on the coast of Brazil, in the Pacific, at the Sandwich Islands and Australia, at Java and Sumatra, in the China seas, on the eastern coast of China, in the Bay of Bengal, and on all the coasts of British India? Does any one suppose we could capture or drive into port every Spanish vessel that would immediately after a declaration of war be found in all the above quarters of the world?

It might be said we could arm our merchant vessels, and particularly the clipper and other ships of large tonnage, in such a manner that they would be able to capture them. True; but the expense of this armament, the wages, stores, and provisions for a war complement of men, the loss of freight to the great extent of room which the water, stores, provisions, and ammunition would occupy, would have the same effect as to render the vessels inactive. The cost of such armament rivals as an increased rate of insurance for a war premium; and though such premium would be less on a vessel thus armed than on an unarmed ship, still it would only be a reduced war premium, which would greatly exceed the present low price rate of insurance. The ocean steam and sailing tonnage of the United States is worth at least two hundred and fifty millions of dollars, and it would probably be a low estimate to say that a war with Spain would depreciate that value at least one-half. Here, then, would be another item to be added to the list of our losses, and an increase of dollars, to say nothing of the loss and distress which would be so extensively felt among the thousands of producers, furnishers, artisans, mechanics, and laborers who provide the necessary supplies or do the necessary repairs and equipment in order to keep such an immense tonnage inactive. The cost of such armament rivals as an increased rate of insurance for a war premium; and though such premium would be less on a vessel thus armed than on an unarmed ship, still it would only be a reduced war premium, which would greatly exceed the present low price rate of insurance. The ocean steam and sailing tonnage of the United States is worth at least two hundred and fifty millions of dollars, and it would probably be a low estimate to say that a war with Spain would depreciate that value at least one-half. 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